

Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

March 16, 2025

Dear Chair and Members of the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee:

On January 13, 2025, the Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee reviewed a request from the Department of Psychology approve a change to an existing minor in psychology, to be effective in Autumn 2025. This minor (currently called “General Psychology Minor”) will be retitled as “Psychology Minor” and will then become the only minor available in Psychology. The other six minors that currently exist in the department will be phased out by Spring 2028.

The proposed revised Psychology Minor will remove the requirement of Psychology 2220, remove a core areas requirement, remove an advanced course requirement, and add a course level requirement. The revised minor will require 15 credit hours, a prerequisite of Psychology 1100, Psychology 2300, and 12 additional credit hours of psychology courses at the 2000-level or higher (with at least six of those hours at the 3000-level or higher).

The department writes that the current General Psychology Minor has significantly more students than the combination of the other six minors. The department states that this change will “increase access to the minor” as well as “offer more flexibility for students to design a minor program that best fits their interests and goals.” In addition, the new structure will “more easily allow the integration of new areas within the field of psychology.” The department will guide students in designing their minor by creating suggested pathways as well as through individual advising.

Students who are in the minors being phased out will be permitted to stay in those minors or switch to the new minor. These students also will receive regular communication and guidance from the department regarding deadlines and other details.

The SBS Subcommittee voted unanimously to approve this request, with three contingencies. Those contingencies have been addressed, and the proposal is now advanced to the ASCC with a motion to approve.

Sincerely,

Amy Nathanson
Professor of Communication

Chair, ASCC Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee